United Nations CCPR/C/SR.3142

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Distr.: General
24 March 2015

Original: English

Human Rights Committee
113th session

Summary record of the 3142nd meeting
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Thursday, 19 March 2015, at 3 p.m.

Chairperson: Mr. Salvioli

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant (*continued*)

Fourth periodic report of Cyprus (CCPR/C/CYP/4; CCPR/C/CYP/Q/4 and Add.1)

1. *At the invitation of the Chairperson, the delegation of Cyprus took places at the Committee table.*

2. **Ms. Koursoumba** (Cyprus) said that the Committee's concluding observations regarding the third periodic report of Cyprus had been posted on the official website of the Law Commissioner, along with the State party's fourth periodic report and its replies to the list of issues. The Government cooperated closely with all United Nations monitoring bodies and with all similar European regional agencies and was up to date in the fulfilment of its reporting obligations. Since Turkish military forces continued to illegally occupy more than one third of the country, the Government was unable to ensure the enjoyment of civil and political rights by inhabitants of the occupied area, as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights had acknowledged in its annual reports.

3. Since the end of the reporting period, significant progress had been achieved in the implementation of the Covenant, including the enactment of anti-discrimination laws, the adoption of national action plans, the establishment of a number of independent oversight mechanisms, such as the Independent Authority for the Investigation of Allegations and Complaints Against the Police, and the introduction of reforms in the education system. At the recommendation of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance and the Office of the Ombudsman, the Ministry of Education and Culture had compiled a code of conduct for countering racism and a guide for handling and reporting racist incidents in schools. The police and the Ombudsman had worked together on a policy statement concerning discrimination and racist offences which focused on deterrents, victim support and protection, and effective investigation. At the urging of the Ombudsman, the Ministry of the Interior had drafted a bill on the establishment of a civil partnership pact. That bill had gone through a public consultation process and would shortly be submitted to the House of Representatives for adoption. In 2014, legislation governing the Office of the Ombudsman had been amended to ensure that the Government followed through on its obligation to implement that institution's recommendations. If the Office of the Ombudsman was dissatisfied with the reports it received from the authorities, it could bring the issue to the attention of the parliament and make it publically known that its recommendations had not been acted upon.

4. The police had launched a programme, in cooperation with the Cyprus Red Cross, to provide psychological support to detainees at the Menoyia detention centre and their families. The detention of persons awaiting expulsion to another country was strictly regulated under the Aliens and Immigration Law and was to be used only as a last resort. At the behest of the Commissioner for Children's Rights, the relevant ministries had adopted a policy decision on enhanced cooperation with a view to avoiding the separation of children from their mothers. When a national of a country that did not belong to the European Union who was being held in detention prior to deportation submitted an application for international protection, the deportation order was suspended and the application was considered under an accelerated procedure; if no decision was taken within 30 days, the person was released. Applicants for international protection received a leaflet on their right to free legal assistance.

5. In its capacity as the national mechanism for the prevention of torture, the Office of the Ombudsman closely monitored the work of the authorities to ensure compliance with international standards. As of 2014, the State had acted in accordance with all of the

Ombudsman's recommendations regarding the prison system, and the first phase of the reform of that system had been successfully completed. Furthermore, in April 2014, the Ombudsman and the Ministry of Justice had issued joint guidelines on suicide prevention among persons deprived of their liberty, and no incidents of self-harming had been recorded since October 2014. The Ombudsman also provided training in human rights and non-discrimination to prison personnel. Since 2014, clerics of any religious denomination had unfettered access to prisons when their services were requested by an inmate.

6. The Ombudsman had launched an awareness-raising campaign, co-funded by the European Commission, for the prevention of violence against women. Social welfare services lent financial and technical support to the non-governmental organization (NGO) that operated the crisis centre, the shelter and European helplines. Amendments to the Criminal Code that were in the pipeline would introduce the notion of stalking, in line with the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence. On another front, a school mediation programme had been set up for teachers and pupils at the primary and secondary levels as an alternative approach to discipline. The best interests of the child were the prime consideration in family affairs.

7. Measures that had been adopted in the field of education included the allocation of additional resources to prevent vulnerable students from dropping out of school or becoming delinquents; the establishment of a task force on school violence; and the adoption of a policy on school bullying. In order to implement that policy, a circular had been distributed to all schools, guidelines had been issued to teachers at all levels and in-service training would be made available.

8. The Civil Registry and Migration Department was reviewing the criteria applying to the employment of domestic workers in order to simplify procedures and eliminate grey areas that might lead to unfair treatment of such workers. The National Referral Mechanism was also under review to ensure compliance with new legal provisions on trafficking in persons. The Government and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) had signed an agreement on the establishment of an IOM office in Cyprus that would also help to step up efforts to develop a comprehensive migration policy. The capacity of the Kofinou reception centre had expanded from 70 to 400 places, and living conditions there had vastly improved. The new emergency reception centre had been used for the first time in September 2014 to house over 330 Syrians and Palestinians who had been rescued at sea. Local authorities were increasingly involved in migrant integration programmes that assisted migrants to meet their daily needs, encouraged their interaction with the local population and their participation in community life, and provided free psychological services. The Ministry of the Interior had instructed the Civil Registry and Migration Department to discontinue the practice of requiring a paternity test in order to register children born of mixed marriages.

9. Referring to the confiscation by police of photographs displayed at an exhibition held by a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights organization on the grounds that they were obscene and, consequently, illegal, she said that the Ombudsman had issued a report on freedom of artistic expression and, on that basis, the Attorney General had decided not to initiate criminal proceedings against that organization.

10. The Government remained committed to furthering the enjoyment of civil and political rights despite the economic crisis, but maintaining the flow of the necessary resources for the continued roll-out of programmes to promote equality and safeguard rights was a challenge.

11. **Mr. Shany** said that, while it was regrettable that the State party had submitted its report 10 years late, the comprehensiveness and quality of its report and its replies clearly demonstrated the State party's commitment to human rights. He welcomed the steps taken

to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman and to obtain its accreditation with the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions. He would like to know, however, why it was still unable to recruit its own staff, how the budget allocation process worked, whether the Office received the necessary resources to fulfil its multiple mandates, whether it had any Turkish-speaking staff and whether it published its reports in Turkish.

12. He invited the delegation to comment on what it considered to be the most serious practical difficulties arising from the prolonged division of the country. He wondered to what degree the situation complicated the investigations of the Committee on Missing Persons, and he would like to know to what extent human rights were factored into the new round of peace negotiations. He noted that the State party had not provided any information on the role of women in the peace process, and he would be interested in learning more about any steps taken to implement the two recommendations made in that connection during the universal periodic review. He would also like to know if any effort was being made to expand the scope of the principle of equality to encompass gender as well as ethnicity.

13. Welcoming the repeal of article 54 of the Children's Law, which had authorized the use of corporal punishment in schools, he wished to know what the penalties were for the use of corporal punishment and whether anyone had yet been prosecuted under the amended law. While he was pleased to note the involvement of the Office of the Ombudsman in addressing the issue of domestic violence, he would like to know whether its recommendations were being implemented and, if not, why, especially since the number of domestic violence cases had risen sharply in recent years. He wished to know why the number of investigations, prosecutions and convictions remained low in comparison to the number of reported cases, whether that might suggest that victims were choosing not to press charges and why nearly three quarters of the offenders who were convicted were only fined. He would like to learn more about how the particular concerns of migrants and ethnic minorities were taken into account in government policies and programmes on domestic violence. Did the State party have or plan to establish a rape crisis centre? What services were currently available to victims of rape or sexual assault? With regard to the legal framework, he wished to know whether the State party was considering refining the definitions of "violence" and "protected persons", whether it was true that cases were dropped if victims did not file an official complaint or withdrew their complaint, and whether victims who did not file a complaint and third-country nationals who were victims of domestic violence were entitled to social services.

14. **Mr. Fathalla** said that he would appreciate further information on the application of nationality laws and was particularly interested in learning whether the children of Turkish Cypriots were discriminated against, why some citizenship applications went unanswered for as long as 10 years and whether clear criteria for the granting of citizenship would be defined. In reference to paragraph 17 of the replies, he asked what classifying a case as "undetected" signified and how the persons investigating the fire at the mosque in Limassol had come to that conclusion. He welcomed the steps taken to combat discrimination, as described in paragraphs 11 to 20 of the replies, and wished to know whether the Code of Conduct against Racism was in place and, if so, what its results had been thus far. He invited the delegation to comment on reports that racist attacks against Turkish Cypriots and persons of other nationalities had increased during the reporting period.

15. **Ms. Waterval** asked what the impact of the previous national action plan on gender equality had been and whether there was a gender balance in the country's schools.

16. **Mr. Seetulsingh**, referring to paragraph 41 of the replies to the list of issues, asked how many missing Greek Cypriots were still unaccounted for and how many of the families of missing Turkish Cypriots had availed themselves of the access-to-information

mechanism. He wished to know whether any evidence of unlawful acts had been uncovered in the course of the investigation of missing persons cases; whether any perpetrators of forced disappearances had been found, tried and punished; whether access to archives and military zones might be granted; and whether the families of victims were entitled to any psychological support or financial compensation. Was it true that the authorities did not investigate the disappearances of Turkish Cypriots as diligently as those of Greek Cypriots?

17. He noted that numerous measures had been adopted in an effort to put a stop to police brutality and hoped that they would be fully implemented. However, he was concerned that so few complaints had been filed and so few persons had been prosecuted despite the establishment of the Independent Authority for the Investigation of Allegations and Complaints Against the Police. He therefore wondered how independent the Authority really was, to what extent it was accountable to the Attorney General, why its members were selected from a list drawn up by the Attorney General and were appointed by the Council of Ministers, and why civil society was not represented among them. He would like to know whether the code of conduct mentioned in paragraph 49 of the replies would be applicable in detention centres and how many cases of misconduct had been referred to the chief of police for disciplinary action. The Committee had heard reports of the use of tear gas against migrants at the Menoyia detention centre, and he would like to know if there had been any investigations into such incidents and, if so, what their outcomes had been. Lastly, he wondered whether the State party might reconsider its ban on the appointment of Turkish Cypriots to the judiciary.

18. **Mr. Bouzid** said that, in the reply to question 10 of the list of issues concerning the deportation of asylum seekers, the State party had claimed that no refugee or applicant would be deported to a country where his or her life or freedom would be put at risk or where he or she would be subjected to torture. The Committee had been informed, however, that the screening procedures for possible torture victims were not in conformity with the Istanbul Protocol, since the Medical Council assigned only a physician and a pathologist to conduct examinations. In 2013, the Cypriot authorities had undertaken to have a psychologist assigned to the team as well, but since then a number of cases had been assessed without the presence of a psychologist. The Committee had also been informed that no official interpreter was present during examinations and that, in some cases, children as young as 13 years of age had been asked to serve as interpreters and to provide an account of the torture, including sexual violence, to which their parents had been subjected. The Medical Council had also reportedly dismissed claims of torture in a number of cases although signs of physical torture had been apparent and had subsequently been confirmed by independent experts.

19. He invited the delegation to provide the list which had been requested earlier of the countries to which asylum seekers had been expelled or deported. The Committee had been informed that the principle of family reunification was not respected under Cypriot law and that many Syrians therefore refrained from seeking asylum on that ground. Did Cyprus intend to amend the law in order to incorporate that principle? In its reply to question 12 of the list of issues, the State party had described the procedures used to ensure that the detention of migrants and asylum seekers was used only as a last resort. Nevertheless, in a report published in 2014, Amnesty International had stated that immigration authorities routinely detained hundreds of migrants and asylum seekers in prison-like conditions for extended periods of time prior to their deportation and that, in some cases, women had been separated from their young children. In addition, a number of Syrian nationals had reportedly been detained, although it was the State party's official policy not to extradite Syrians to their country. Apparently asylum seekers who had filed an appeal against a deportation decision could still be held in detention under Cypriot law, although the European Court of Human Rights had ruled that doing so would constitute a breach of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. In fact, the

Committee had been informed that the Ministry of the Interior did not permit the release of persons against whom a deportation order had been issued and who had subsequently applied for asylum. He asked whether the authorities were planning to amend the relevant legislation.

20. The State party had been requested, in question 13 of the list of issues, to provide statistics on the number and ages of the migrants and asylum seekers currently held in detention while awaiting deportation and on the length of time that they had spent in detention. Could the delegation provide that information? It was his understanding that article 30 of the Constitution provided for the provision of free legal assistance, but the Committee had been informed that asylum seekers did not receive legal assistance during the early stages of the refugee status determination process. He wondered whether the authorities were willing to amend the legislation so that asylum seekers would have access to a lawyer at all stages of the process.

21. **Ms. Cleveland**, referring to question 5 of the list of issues, said that, while the State party had drawn attention to the fact that women occupied a number of senior positions in the Government and played quite a prominent role in the civil service and the judiciary, it had also noted that a significant gender gap remained and that stereotypes and patriarchal attitudes persisted. She would like to know how those issues were addressed in the current National Action Plan on Gender Equality and what steps were being taken to address wage disparities and to promote the participation of women in economic and political life.

22. Turning to question 14 of the list of issues, she noted the efforts undertaken by the State party to prevent deaths in custody, particularly suicides, and to develop guidelines for prison staff and inform them about their obligations under international legal instruments. Statistics would be appreciated on recent deaths in prisons, their causes and any subsequent prosecutions and their outcomes, as well as on recent incidents of harm and attempted self-harm by prisoners. She asked whether the State party had fully implemented the recommendations in paragraph 77 of the report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture concerning the establishment of a comprehensive suicide prevention and management approach and, if not, what steps it was planning to take. She would appreciate more detailed information about the action being taken to prevent inter-prisoner violence and gang rape and to punish those responsible for such incidents. She welcomed the fact that solitary confinement was used as a correctional measure only in cases of serious misconduct and that it was limited, in most cases, to two days in duration. She enquired about the criteria used to determine what constituted serious misconduct and asked whether the duration of solitary confinement could be extended at the discretion of a prison official. She would also like to know what steps had been taken to introduce the legislative amendments regarding solitary confinement that had been recommended in paragraph 15 (c) of the concluding observations of the Committee against Torture in July 2014 (CAT/C/CYP/CO/4).

23. **Mr. de Frouville**, referring to the State party's reply to question 6 of the list of issues, said that it was unclear which benefits were covered by the amendments that had been introduced to give children of internally displaced women the same status as children of internally displaced men. It also seemed, judging from paragraph 34 of the replies, that inequality in electoral rights persisted. Had any measures been taken to restore equality in that respect?

24. Turning to question 14, he welcomed the closure of the wings of the central prison that had been used to hold immigrants. He was also pleased to note that the immigrant detention centre in Monoyia was not overcrowded and that a psychological treatment programme was being introduced in that facility. According to the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture, however, detention conditions in the facility did not fully meet

international standards. He asked what steps were being taken to respond to the European Committee's recommendations and to address the general problem of prison overcrowding.

The meeting was suspended at 4.20 p.m. and resumed at 4.45 p.m.

25. **Ms. Koursoumba** (Cyprus) said that the mandate of the highly respected Ombudsman's Office was very broad and included duties that other countries usually assigned to different authorities. Cyprus was a small country with limited resources, and although the Office required more staff, it had not requested an increase in its budget in recent years. Like many other public institutions, the Ombudsman's Office would very much like to include the Turkish language in its reports and on its website. However, translation into Turkish presented quite a challenge, especially since Turkish Cypriots had not participated in government institutions since 1964. Submission of the application to the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions for accreditation of the Ombudsman's Office had been delayed for technical reasons, but it would probably be considered at the Coordinating Committee's next session, and the reply was expected to be favourable.

26. Corporal punishment in the family and in schools had been prohibited long ago. The Violence in the Family Law of 2000 strictly prohibited all forms of violence and psychological punishment. Moreover, any person who became aware of a case of violence against a minor or a person with severe mental or psychological disabilities and failed to report it was committing an offence. Cyprus was a pioneering country in the effort to put an end to domestic violence and had enacted highly progressive legislation to combat such violence 10 years earlier. The fact that more complaints were being filed was a welcome development, since it reflected the impact of the country's awareness-raising campaign. Women now had the courage to speak out. It was not always easy to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that an offence had been committed, especially in the case of psychological forms of violence, and witnesses sometimes withdrew their complaints. It was therefore important to change people's attitudes and broaden the legislation further.

27. The Committee on Missing Persons was composed of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot members and an international expert nominated by the International Committee of the Red Cross and appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Its mandate was limited, since it was authorized to identify remains but not to investigate the causes of death or to attribute responsibility. The Government was pressing for a change in that regard. The judgements handed down by the European Court of Human Rights in cases concerning violations of the human rights of the families of missing persons had gone against Turkey. Cases brought in the same court against Cyprus had been dismissed. Successive Cypriot Governments had done their level best to determine the tragic fates of missing persons. As at September 2014, the fates of 1,175 of the 1,619 missing Greek Cypriots and of 174 of the 502 missing Turkish Cypriots were still unknown. The Cypriot Government had made all relevant archives available to the Committee but the Turkish Government had not done so.

28. In response to an earlier question about the absence of persons of Turkish origin in the judiciary, she said that, although Cyprus had been established in 1960 as a bicommunal State, following the withdrawal of representatives of the Turkish community in the wake of the intercommunal conflict of 1963 and 1964, legislation had been enacted, out of necessity, to enable the State to function on the basis of Greek Cypriot representation alone. It was hoped that reconciliation could be achieved in due course. Civil society was already making progress in that direction, and there was increasing interaction between political parties. The United Nations Development Programme was also implementing a number of projects from which both communities benefited.

29. Efforts were being made to bridge the remaining gender gap in the public sector and the judiciary. The National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2014–2017 would incorporate the findings of the assessment of the implementation of the preceding plan and all the recommendations made to Cyprus by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

30. **Ms. Andreou** (Cyprus) said that the new gender equality action plan would be more focused and comprehensive than the preceding plan. The amended version of the Manual of Interdepartmental Cooperation on Domestic Violence would ensure closer cooperation in carrying out case-by-case assessments of the severity of violent incidents. A separate manual on family violence against children would be prepared. As a way of encouraging people to report cases of violence against women and children, family counsellors were allowed to accept anonymous referrals. Victims who did not wish to file a complaint were offered counselling by welfare officers, information on their basic rights and options, and psychological support. Migrants were provided with the same level of support as Cypriot nationals.

31. The financial crisis had placed the female workforce at a particular disadvantage because most women were in unskilled or low-skilled occupations and lacked job security. The Labour Relations Department had launched a project to reduce the pay gap in July 2010 that would run until the end of 2015. The project, which had a budget of €3 million, was co-financed by the European Social Fund and consisted of a broad mix of measures aimed at combating the root causes of the gender pay gap. Project activities included the improvement of inspections to monitor the application of equal pay legislation, the establishment of a gender equality certification body and the examination of collective agreements to detect any discriminatory pay provisions. Action was also being taken in the education sector to eliminate occupational and sectoral segregation.

32. The Gender Equality Committee was established in 2002 to promote social dialogue among representatives of employers, employees and NGOs. It made suggestions concerning labour laws and regulations, proposed projects, conducted research, compiled statistics on gender equality in employment, and submitted or forwarded complaints concerning violations to labour inspectors. It provided victims of discrimination with assistance, including legal representation in court. The Committee also promoted the dissemination through media outlets of information concerning gender pay equality.

33. **Ms. Argyropoulou** (Cyprus) said that the detention of illegal immigrants was regulated by the Aliens and Immigration Law and was carried out in compliance with the relevant European Union directive. When a decision to return an individual to his or her country of origin could not be implemented, he or she was granted conditional release. Although the duration of detention could be extended, it never exceeded 18 months. Deportation decisions upheld the principle of non-refoulement and, if a third-country national or person residing illegally in Cyprus applied for international protection while in detention, the deportation order was suspended and the Asylum Service was immediately informed so that the issuance of a decision could be expedited and the duration of detention minimized. If the Asylum Service or reviewing authority failed to reach a decision within 30 days, conditional release was granted. The law placed priority on the best interests of the child, and efforts were made to prevent the separation of children from their mother or from their father if he was a single parent. If both parents were residing illegally in Cyprus, they were not detained, but allowed to set a date for their voluntary departure and to live with their child in the meantime, subject to certain conditions.

34. All deportation orders applying to Syrians had been suspended, and all Syrian nationals, including failed asylum seekers, who possessed valid identity documents, whether residing legally or illegally in Cyprus, could apply for a temporary residence and work permit. As for the question regarding family reunification, many Syrians had family

members in other European countries and often did not wish to apply for asylum in Cyprus because of restrictions under the Dublin Regulation. The Refugee Law had been amended to provide for family reunification for recognized refugees.

35. **Ms. Dimitriou** (Cyprus) said that police referred domestic violence cases to the courts if there was sufficient evidence, even in the absence of an official complaint from the victim. It was true that charges in such cases were sometimes difficult to prove, particularly when they related to psychological violence. Sentencing for domestic violence offences was strict and was based on all the available evidence.

36. Members of the Independent Authority for the Investigation of Allegations and Complaints Against the Police were appointed for five years, and mechanisms were in place to ensure its members' objectivity. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had commented favourably on its work.

37. The use of tear gas in the Menoyia detention centre had been investigated by the Ombudsman, who had found that the officers had reacted proportionally. The staff had been informed of the zero-tolerance stance regarding human rights violations and was aware of issues relating to ill-treatment and the use of force. Measures had been adopted by the Government to foster a change in culture and prevent ill-treatment. A significant number of complaints of ill-treatment by the police had been received. The Ministry of Justice and Public Order had launched a website where complaints could be submitted, and independent monitoring mechanisms had been strengthened. The relevant authorities consulted with the Ombudsman regarding the findings published in her reports and reported to her on the action taken to comply with her recommendations. All officials were required to cooperate with the Ombudsman; refusal to do so was a disciplinary offence. Conditions in detention centres had been deemed satisfactory by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, but further improvements could be made, particularly in connection with the strict measures implemented at the Menoyia centre; the chief of police had been instructed to implement more appropriate procedures.

38. Prison overcrowding had been reduced by increasing capacity and by downsizing the prison population through the use of electronic monitoring devices, the decision to house inmates at risk of suicide in a special unit, a greater reliance on suspended sentences and the transfer of foreign detainees to serve their sentences in their home countries. The first phase of the prison reform programme had focused on improving living conditions, protecting vulnerable persons, changing the culture of prison management and fostering social reintegration. That phase had been completed and had been evaluated positively by the Ombudsman. The adoption of a human rights-based approach in which any form of ill-treatment was unacceptable and punishable was reflected in the types of steps taken to prevent and manage incidents. For the first time, prison officers accused of engaging in ill-treatment had been suspended from duty, and all allegations of physical ill-treatment made by inmates were investigated. The prison administration was being restructured, and the newly appointed prison director fully embraced the human rights-based approach. The Government, rather than the prison administration as such, now designed prison policy and monitored its implementation, and all unnecessary measures of restraint or control had been eradicated. Efforts were being made to comply with the Ombudsman's recommendations and, following consultations with stakeholders, a reform programme that provided for short-, medium- and long-term actions had been drawn up. The discretionary powers of prison staff had been reduced, and prison officers had to obtain the approval of the prison administration in order to place an inmate in solitary confinement. Officers failing to comply with that new procedure would be disciplined. A review of prison regulations was

to be carried out by the prison director, the Ministry of Justice and Public Order and an independent committee appointed by the Council of Ministers.

39. All inmates now had the right to open visits and to visits from a chaplain of the religion of their choosing. The number of permitted visits had been increased and a handbook on prison visits was being prepared. The allowable number and duration of telephone calls had also been increased. Additionally, video-voice calls via computer had recently been authorized. Inmates could have their requests recorded and examined by prison administrators; they could also contact an officer who liaised with the Ministry of Justice and Public Order on a daily basis.

40. Inmates had the benefit of a work, education, sport and activities programme, and the Ministry of Education and Culture was updating the instructional programme for inmates and aligning it with the national vocational training system so that they could continue their training after their release. Particular attention was devoted to the education of young prisoners and those with special needs.

41. Suicide prevention measures included interviews with each inmate upon admission, the recording of specific instructions pertaining to vulnerable inmates each day, and daily communication between prison management and prison doctors. A special facility housed inmates at risk of suicide, the solitary confinement unit, vulnerable inmates and those requiring protection from other inmates. Before being assigned to that unit, prison officers underwent two weeks of intensive training. Statistics on self-harm and on attempted suicide and suicide in prison had not been kept prior to 2013, but figures recorded since then indicated that incidents were becoming less frequent.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.